



# Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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## **Shrimp Fishery to Re-Open Off Texas on July 15, 2015**

NOAA Fisheries announces federal waters from 9 to 200 nautical miles off Texas will open to shrimp trawling at 30 minutes after official sunset, local time, on **July 15, 2015**, corresponding to the time Texas opens its waters to shrimp trawling.

The waters off Texas are closed to shrimp fishing annually to allow brown shrimp to reach a larger and more valuable size prior to harvest, and to prevent waste of brown shrimp that might otherwise be discarded because of their small size.

The re-opening date is based on the results of biological sampling by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Texas opens state waters when sampling indicates the average size of brown shrimp leaving the estuaries will be 112 mm (4.4 inches) total length, during a period of maximum duration ebb tides. Texas has projected these criteria will be met by July 15 this year.